

Brookhaven ZBA Chair Paul DeChance Honored with Statewide Award

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Farmingville, NY - Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine announced today that Paul DeChance has received a statewide recognition for his work as the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman. DeChance received the NYPF David Allee Award for an Outstanding ZBA Chair at the recent New York Planning Federation's 76th Annual Planning & Zoning Conference in Saratoga Springs. The Supervisor honored Mr. DeChance with a proclamation at the May 22 Town Board meeting. Pictured left to right are Town Clerk Donna Lent, Councilman Kevin LaValle, Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright, Supervisor Romaine, Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Mr. DeChance, Councilman Dan Panico, Councilman Tim Mazzei and Councilwoman Connie Kepert.

"Paul DeChance is a dedicated public servant who treats his position as Chair of the Town's ZBA as a second full-time responsibility," said Supervisor Romaine. "He works tirelessly on behalf of the residents of Brookhaven to ensure that the ZBA makes reasoned, responsible land use decisions, and runs his department in an effective and efficient manner. This is an honor that is truly well deserved."

DeChance, a Miller Place resident, has served on the ZBA for 11 years, and as its chair for the past five years. He was commended for his dedication and commitment to his role as ZBA chairman, the time he spends hearing both staff and office concerns, and for his ability to conduct meetings "in a pleasant, even-tempered manner."

"Congratulations to Paul DeChance on receiving this prestigious honor. Paul has long been a steadfast advocate for preserving the character of communities throughout Brookhaven Town for future generations, and is more than deserving of this award," said Councilwoman Connie Kepert, Town Board liaison to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

"Every day, our zoning board makes decisions that will affect the landscape of our Town for generations to come. Paul DeChance has worked hard to ensure that these decisions are made in a way that protect the nature and character of our neighborhoods and communities, and I am happy to see that his efforts have been recognized," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner.

The David Allee Award is named in honor of the former leader of the Cornell Local Government Program. Founded in 1937, the New York Planning Federation is a statewide, member-supported non-profit. Its mission is to promote sound planning, land use and zoning practice in New York State which fosters orderly growth and development,

balanced with the protection of natural resources.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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